

CLEAN VERSION OF THE CLAIMS

1. (once amended) An isolator mechanism for use with a housing having a bearing with lubricant in the housing and a shaft protruding through the housing, the isolator comprising:

- a) a stator affixed to the housing and closely surrounding the shaft;
- b) said stator having a radial groove formed therein with the walls of said groove

extending between said housing and said shaft;

- c) the exterior surface of a first wall of said groove facing the interior of the housing;

- d) an axial hole in said first wall at the lower extremity of said first wall from said shaft connecting said groove to said housing.

17. (twice amended) An isolator mechanism for use with a housing having a bearing with lubricant in the housing and a shaft protruding through the housing, to isolator comprising:

- a) a stator affixed to the housing and closely surrounding the shaft;
- b) said stator having a radial groove formed therein with the walls of said groove

extending between said housing and said shaft;

- c) the exterior surface of a first wall of said groove facing the interior of the housing;

- d) a plurality of axial holes in said first wall at the extremity of said first wall from said shaft connecting said groove to said housing.